Energy management policy of Railways

1316. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after scripting a turnaround, his Ministry is now looking to achieve a similar breakthrough in its energy management policy to bring about energy efficiency in the system using a four-pronged approach which would include electrification of more routes, improving technology as well as setting up a captive power plants;

(b) if so,whether the Railways spend about 6,400 crores annually on its energy requirements of which about Rs. 5,500 crores is spent on electricity alone;

(c) what are the proposals Government are considering; and

(d) by when final decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Expenditure on electrical energy for the year 2005-06 for traction purposes was Rs. 4391 crores and for non-traction purposes was Rs. 978 crores. The expenditure on diesel fuel was Rs. 5943 crores.

(c) and (d) As regards setting up of power plant, it has been decided to establish a 1000 Mega Watt (MW) captive power plant at Nabinagar (Bihar) in joint venture with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Limited and Railways. The electrification of Barabanki-Gorakhpur-Barauni, Jalandhar-Jammu Tawi and Tiruchchirappalli-Madurai routes have also been proposed in Budget for the year 2007-08 tabled in Parliament. Improvement in technology is a continuous process and decisions are taken on techno-economic considerations.

Secruity arrangements on Railways

1317. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether extremists targeting trains plying across Naxalite-infested districts, the Centre decided to put in place a counter strategy that would